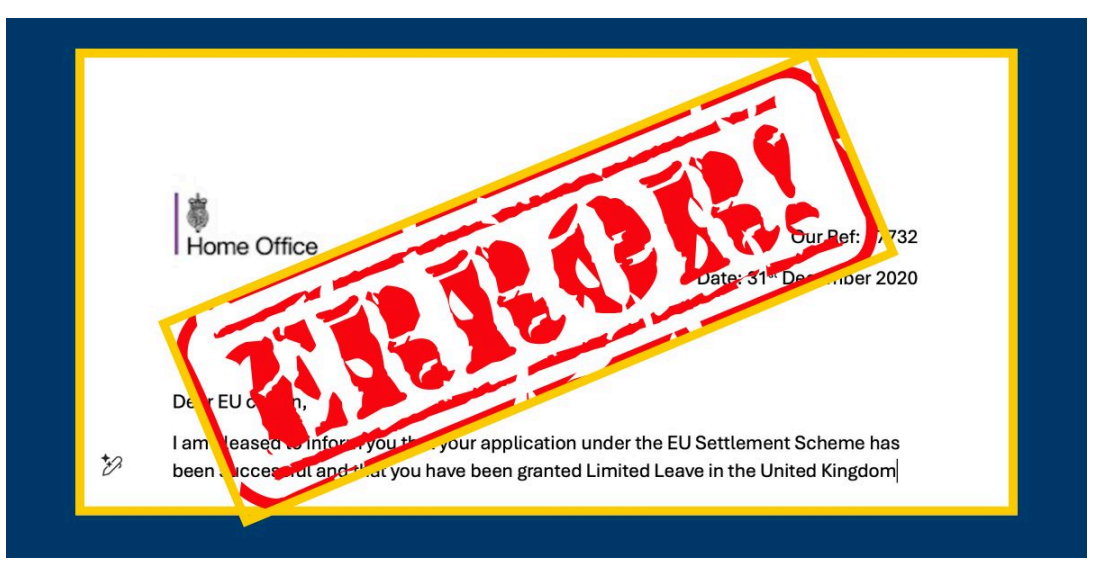


Dear EU citizen,

Were you granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme, only to be told years later that the Home Office believes it was granted "in error"?

We're hearing this from more and more EU citizens and their family members. For some, it means their pre-settled status will simply be allowed to expire. For others with settled status, it means being told they can no longer use it to sponsor a family member.

Crucially, in these cases the Home Office often doesn't give people the same chance to challenge the decision, or to argue that removing their status would be disproportionate.

This is having a devastating impact on people's lives. We are hearing from people where it is affecting their ability to access healthcare, rent, work, travel etc.

We have heard from dozens of people whose health is suffering from the stress that this is causing.

What does "granted in error" mean?

The EUSS was created to protect the rights of EU citizens living in the UK before the end of the Brexit transition period and their family members. Millions of applications were processed in the early days of the scheme, often at enormous speed. Now, the Home Office is revisiting some of those decisions years later.

We're seeing cases where people were EU citizens before the crucial cut-off date but only got documentary evidence later, cases where people met the requirements but weren't asked for a particular document, and cases where people were granted status at a caseworker's discretion, having supplied everything that was asked of them in good faith. In many of these cases, the Home Office accepted the person's circumstances and granted status, only for a different caseworker, years later, to reach a different conclusion. People who absolutely met the requirements for EUSS, are now being denied their rights promised under the Withdrawal Agreement.

Why this matters

Normally, when the Home Office wants to curtail or remove someone's status, there should be a chance to respond, and a proportionality assessment. When the Home Office instead says status was granted "in error," we're seeing a different approach, one with far fewer safeguards. For people with pre-settled status, this can mean the Home Office simply lets their status run out, with no assessment at all of whether it is proportionate to do so.

We're taking the Home Office to court

We believe people who were granted status in good faith shouldn't lose their rights years later because the Home Office has changed its mind. They must have a meaningful opportunity to challenge the decision, and all safeguards in the Withdrawal Agreement must apply, whatever label the Home Office puts on the process.

That's why the3million is launching legal action to challenge the Home Office's approach to "grants in error". It's about whether the Home Office can grant someone status, let them build their life around it, and then quietly take away their rights years later.

Support our legal challenge

If you have been affected by this issue you can let us know via our new Report-it form

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In solidarity

Monique

Monique Hawkins, is the acting CEO, and Head of Policy and Advocacy, at the3million

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Read our previous newsletters

You can catch up on our previous newsletters here

You can download a PDF of this newsletter here

Report your issues



Our reports are entirely informed by you raising your issues with us.

If you or your family and friends experience any issues in applying for EUSS family permits, pre-settled or settled status, or in using a digital status, report it:

Report it

Get help with the EU Settlement Scheme

USEFUL LINKS TO SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

Help with your immigration status

Become a supporter today

Thank you for reading our newsletter.

Did you know the3million is the leading grassroots organisation of EU citizens in the UK?

We are grateful for your support, as we simply couldn't have campaigned for citizens' rights since 2016 without you.

If you can afford it, please donate today to enable the3million to continue to uphold the Government to account and inform EU citizens of their rights:

Donate today

You can also:

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- Like our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/the3million/
- Join the conversation with over 45,000 fellow EU citizens in the Facebook Forum for EU citizens: www.facebook.com/groups/Forum4EUcitizens/
- Forward this newsletter to your friends and relatives, who can sign up to receive the newsletter in their inbox at https://www.the3million.org.uk/subscribe
- If you are a British citizen living in the EU, you may find useful information on www.britishineurope.org and consult the website of your country of residence.

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